

BE it therefore knowen hereby, that Wee doe giue expresse charge and commandement, that none of our Purueyours, nor other of our Officers or ministers Whatsoever, that now are, or hereafter shall be, or any of them, or any of their Deputies or Seruants, shall take for vs, or in our name, to or for any vse Whatsoever, any Timber trees of any our Subiects, growing in any place, or places Whatsoever, without the expresse consent, and agreement of the owner thereunto had and obtained. Of which particular abuses wee cannot conceale our mislike, both in respect of the iniury done thereby to that laudable policie of the Realme for maintayning of Timber, and also in the particular feeling we haue in our owne affections how grieuous it is for any man to behold the fruits, & honest pleasures of his owne Labours or his Ancestors, defaced & spoiled by the lewd & rauinous malice of base companions.

SEcondly, because we haue considered that our Subjects may be sometime ouer burthened (against the meaning of our principall Officers) by the vnrasonable taking of wood, Coale, Hay, Dates and such like provisions in time of progresse: we do expressly charge and command all our Officers, ministers, or any of their Deputies & seruants, to forbear to take either wood, Coale, Hay, or Dates in larger proportion, then shalbe found necessary to be expended for the seruice of our House and Stable.

And further our pleasure is, that none of our Purueyors or takers of cariage, or carttakers (for the time being) nor any of their deputies or seruants, nor any other of our Officers or Ministers whatsoever, shall vpon our iourneys, remoues, or progresse, take vpon any carts or carriages for any Nobleman, Gentleman, Artizan, or others whatsoever, not being our seruants in ordinary, & necessarily for that time to attend vs. In which poynt that it may the better appeare, how sparingly it shal be vsed, wee doe expressly command, that there bee no more carriages taken, then shall be particularly comprised in a list, which shalbe made for that purpose, and signed with the hands of the principall Officers of our Chamber, Housholde, and Stable: And for the rest, whatsoever they bee, either Noblemen, Gentlemen, Artizans, or others that doe follow vs, our expresse pleasure and commandement is, That they from henceforth at all times hereafter provide their carriages (such as they shall like to haue or vse) at their owne proper costes and charges, and by their owne meanes, without vsing in any sort either our name or authoritie, or any of our Purueyors, or any of their deputies or seruants, for, or about the same.

And wee do withall hereby signifie vnto all and euery our Purueyors, their deputies and seruants, and all others that may receiue any order from them touching purueyance of carriages, or the making of any the provisions aforesaide for any our progresse, iourneys, or remoues, That if in any poynt therein they doe carry themselves contrary to this our expresse prohibition in that behalfe made, that for such their offences they shalbe proceeded against in the seuerest maner, and receiue such exemplary punishment, as by our Lawes may be inflicted vpon them.

And we do straightly charge our principall Officers of our Household and Stable, and other Officers of our Greencloth, vpon due information, and prooffe made before them of any our Ministers offending in any the kindes before specified, to deliuer the sayd offenders into the hands of some of the Iustices of Peace of the sayde Shire or Countie, where the sayd offence, or offences were committed, to the end they may proceede against them in as seuerer maner, as the Lawe and Iustice of our Realme requireth, or alloweth. And if any of the offences aforesaid shall seeme fitter to bee proceeded withall in the Court of Starre chamber, then in the Counties where the offences shal be committed; Then wee doe straightly charge and commaund our Atturney generall for the time being, that if information be giuen vnto him by any our Iustices of Peace of the misdemeanoor of any person so deliuered, to see the sayd offender prosecuted, and duely punished. Provided alwayes, that our meaning is not hereby to prohibite any our Iustices of Peace, vpon iust complaints of any of our louing Subjects, to examine, to binde ouer to the Sessions, or (if neede require it) to commit any such offenders in their seuerall Shires: And then, certifying the cause of such commitments to the Officers of our Greencloth, to proceed (vpon good proofes) in further punishment of the faults, according to the Lawes of the Realme.

And wee doe in like maner expressly prohibite and forbid all persons, after the end of this Session of Parliament, to make any purueyance without Commission for euery seuerall Shire, containing the kindes, and quantities (so neere as may bee) which they are to puruey within such a Shire. And that to the same Commissions blanke Scedules be annexed, which cannot be taken off, wherein they shall truly, in presence of such High Constable, or Constables, pettie Constable, or Constables, Headborough, or Headboroughes, as shall (by precept to him or them directed) be prised to the deliuerie of any the provisions in the said Commission specified, enter their takings presently, whereunto the said Constable, &c. shall subscribe their names or signe Manuell. And that the owners or sellers, if they will, may presently likewise subscribe their names or marks to the same. And that when they haue finished their takings in any such Shire, That then they deliuer a Duplicate of the said Scedule containing their takings, and a true Copy of their proportions appointed, to one of the next Iustices of Peace, to the end it may appeare that their takings exceed not their warrants.

Furthermore, where we haue bene informed, that diuers complaints haue bene made of some hard course taken by our Officers of our Greencloth towards diuers of our louing Subjects, at such times as they haue informed against Purueyors and such like Officers vpon abuses: Although wee haue no doubt, that any of our Officers will in any such case so much forget their respect to Justice or Duety to vs (the principall Officers being Counsellors of State, and the rest Knights and Gentlemen of good qualitie and discretion) yet to the intent our people may be satisfied that we haue no purpose to suffer any interruption of Justice, vnder pretext of our authority: wee doe hereby declare it, and so is our will and pleasure, that in case any of our louing Subjects shalbe imprisoned for so doing, that the Judges of our High Court at Westminister shall award a Habeas corpus for their reliefe, according to our Lawes.

And for the better satisfaction of our people, of whose loyalty and inward affections we stand so much assured, as they will not repine at any provision delivered by Vertue of our Commission, if it may appeare to come to our vse, our wil and pleasure therefore is, that our Iustices of Peace in every senerall Countie or Country, where any provision shalbe taken by vertue of our Commissions, shall at their quarter Sessions take particular reckning of the high & petty Constables of all Warrants coming vnto them from any minister of ours, together with what provisions or carriages they haue delivered vnto them by vertue of our Commission, the true and iust Certificate whereof they shall halfe yearely at the least, vnder the hands and Seales of some of them certifie to our Treasurer and Comptroller, or other our officers of Greencloth, who presently by the parcels and accounts of our house shall duely examine the receit from such Purueitors. And if it be found by Certificate of the sayd Iustices or otherwise, that they haue taken more then they haue delivered for our vse or expence, vnlesse it shall appeare to haue had iust cause of miscarrying by the way: then we require our officers of Household, vpon paine of our displeasure, without delay to send the party so offending into the Countie where such offence or offences shall be committed, there to receiue punishment of life and member, as the good and ancient lawes of our Realme haue formerly ordeined and appointed.

Furthermore, as we did in our retorne out of Wiltshire, being our first progresse, vpon the examination of some abuses, drawe downe the number of our carriages to such a proportion as two full third parts was diminished of the numbers befoze time vsed: euen so at this time, because we conceiue that the matter of carriages is the greatest grievance, And that it is oftentimes no lesse trouble to our people to come emptye with their carts to Court to take in carriages, then to reuey them: we doe therefore hereby also commaund all persons vsed in the seruice of Carttaking for our remoues, to forbear to take either more carriages then are of necessity to be vsed, or to warne or charge carts in any Citie, Towne, Burrow, or hundzed aboue fourteene miles at any time distant from the place where they are to receiue their loding, vpon paine of losing their Office and Seruice, and such further punishment as is to be inflicted vpon them for their contemptes. And we doe likewise require all high Constables, vpon receipt of any Warrants from any our carttakers, their seruants or deputies for warning of Carts within their hundzeths, that they presume not to warne any but in such part of the hundzeth as shall be within compasse of the fourteene miles aboue specified, vpon paine of the penalties befoze expressed: vnlesse it shall appeare by the Iudgement and order of the Iustices of that County, or sixe of them at the least, that it shall be more for the ease of the countrey to enlarge the extent of the number of miles aforesayd.

Further, we charge and commaund the Purueitors of our Woodyard and Scullarie, vpon taking of any proportion of Wood or Coale for our provision, not to medle or assume authority vnto themselves for warning any Carts for Carriage of the same, but by the direction of two at the least of our Iustices of Peace next adioyning of that County, where such Wood, or Coales shall be taken, to the end the same may be performed with the greatest ease to our louing Subiects, vpon paine of losing their office, and such further punishment, as their contempt shall require: Not doubting, but those Iustices, which are made priuy to their Commission, will vse such care, and expedition at all times, for the furtherance of our seruice, and for the good and quiet of their countrey, as we shall not bee forced by their Remissnes, to retorne the wonted authoritie into the hands of the Purueitors.

And lastly, as a further demonstration of our inward affection to our people, notwithstanding our ancient Right and prerogative of Purueiance so long continued, we haue caused some of our priuy Councell, (together with our chiefe Officers of the Greencloth) to fall into present consideration how to prouide (as soone as may be) some such conuenient number of Carts, wholly to bee maintained vpon our owne charge, as may serue vs whensoever we shall make any sudden remoue, or priuate iourneyes for our exercise, and recreation, without being forced to vse any Commission, or to put the Countries to any charge for furnishing vs vpon any of those vncertaine occasions.

Giuen vnder our Signe manuell at our palace of Westminster the 23. day of April, in the fourth yeere of our Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.

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